

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-2, 5-9 and 12-18 will be pending. Claims 1, 5, 8 and 12 will have been amended. Claims 3-4 and 10-11 will be canceled and substantially incorporated into claims 1 and 8, respectively. Reconsideration of the Office Action of April 23, 2009 is respectfully requested.

Applicant expresses appreciation for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-3, 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,134,593 Alexander et al. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Without addressing the propriety of the rejection, and in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, Applicant has incorporated the subject matter of claims 3-4 and 10-11 into claims 1 and 8, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant submits that that claims 1 and 10 are allowable over the prior art of record. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

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PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (770) 475-9129.

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